

AF FORM 112-PART I

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY GERMANY <i>CLS only</i>	REPORT NO. A56-B-4630	(LEAVE BLANK) LP-140053
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Socio-Political Information on USSR	(Interviewer) HARDT, Helmut (FW)	(Editor) SCHULEIN
AREA REPORTED ON VORKUTA/ASBEST (USSR)	FROM (Agency) 7050th AISW (USAF)	
DATE OF REPORT 15 Mar 54	DATE OF INFORMATION Jan 48-Aug 50/Jan 51-Dec 53	EVALUATION C-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) HALBERT H. ACKER, Lt Col, USAF	SOURCE 217487	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) 217487-A56-B-4631		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)		
A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: 1. SOURCE was born on 4 Apr 1920 in FRANKFURT/MAIN (5009N/841E), had twelve (12) years education, was auto mechanic by profession, spoke Russian fairly well. 2. SOURCE was held in PW camps # 7274/9 and 7274/4 at KIYEV (5027N/3032E) from May 45 to Oct 47, from Oct 47 to Jan 48 was en route by train from KIYEV to VORKUTA (6730N/6400E) and from Jan 48 to Aug 50 was held in a civilian labor camp at VORKUTA. From Aug 50 to Jan 51, he was interned in PW-camp # ?/1 at STALINGRAD (4845N/4425E) and worked as a constr laborer on the constr of the local water works. From Jan 51 to Dec 53, SOURCE was held in PW-camp # 6118/A, the later 5110/45, at ASBEST, and worked from Jan 51 to Jun 51, alternatingly on the constr of a water pipeline system and of an asbestos processing plant and from Jun 51 to Dec 53, worked as an auto mechanic in a state-operated auto garage and truck pool. SOURCE stated that he had contact with Russian civilian workers practically at all places of internment, but especially close contact with Soviet citizens and civilian prisoners during his internment at VORKUTA and ASBEST. a. SOURCE was tried on Nov 27, 1947, by a Soviet court martial, the so-called "VOYNA TRIBUNAL # 1" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling) at KIYEV for alleged war crimes. The court martial consisted of four (4) Soviet officers, three (3) unknown majors, one (1) unknown 1st Lt and one (1) unknown civilian female interpreter. SOURCE found that female interpreter did not master German language sufficiently enough to act as court interpreter. The trial lasted a total of five (5) minutes, during which the bill of indictment and the verdict was read. Both the accusation and the verdict had been prepared, typewritten, and the verdict was already signed by a certain Col RUDENKO (SOURCE's phonetic spelling), the chief judge of the district of UKRAINSKAYA SSR. The bill of indictment charged SOURCE for hanging and deportation of 4,000 Russian civilians and for the killing of 100 Russian civilians through crushing by tanks. SOURCE stated that the accusation was fantastic and was purely intentional, since at the time of the alleged events he had not been in Russian territory. The verdict was read to SOURCE and was the death sentence, converted to twenty-five (25) years in a labor camp. A special clause of the written verdict contained the statement that special evidence against SOURCE could not be brought, therefore, he was given the right of revision, which months later was disapproved by Soviet authorities. SOURCE did not sign the verdict, but was informed that it was made retroactive 1946. 3. SOURCE was a willing and cooperative person. There were no obvious inconsistencies in his objective statements. The info collected from this SOURCE is regarded as fairly reliable by this interviewer. INCLS.		
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and # 16 at VORKUTA and in stone quarries.

E. FORCED LABOR CAMPS:

SOURCE stayed in a forced labor camp a few days in Dec 47, at KIROV (5833N/4942E), while en route to VORKUTA. Camp was located in town area of KIROV, was generally called "SPITSHKIY ZAVOD" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling) because all its inmates were employed in a nearby safety match fcty. Camp reportedly housed 4,000 civilian prisoners, mixed criminal and political categories, majority were Soviet nationals, a small minority German PWs sentenced for petty larceny, mostly cases of food thefts to satisfy their hunger and some PW criminals. Camp remained active at time of SOURCE's departure.

Forced labor camp VORKUTA. SOURCE was held in camp from Jan 48 to Aug 50. Camp was administered by MGB and guarded by MVD forces, housed average of 4,000 prisoners. Majority Soviet nationals, but also foreign groups, such as Latvians, Lithuanians and Estonians. Prisoners were employed in coal mines # 12, # 14 and # 16 in the VORKUTA area. Camp was generally referred to as "KOHLEN LAGER" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling for Coal Camp).

Forced labor camp VORKUTA, so-called ZIEGELEI-LAGER (SOURCE's phonetic German spelling for Brick Yard Camp). Its proper Russian designation was "KIRPITSH # 2" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling). It was located thirty (30) km NE of VORKUTA and remained active at the time of SOURCE's departure from this area. Camp was guarded by MVD-forces, administered by MGB. SOURCE was held in camp for several weeks in Oct and Nov 49. It housed average of 2,000 prisoners, majority Russians, but also Latvians, Lithuanians, Estonians, Poles and Germans were held in camp. Its inmates were employed in brick yards, stone quarries and one group as a constr force of an unknown new fcty. In Oct 49, according to Russian so-called "BLATNOIS" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling) one (1) American was held in camp dor two (2) days. From Russian civilian prisoners employed in stone quarries in vicinity of camp, SOURCE heard that a group of English-speaking prisoners was held in camp and also worked in a stone-quarry, but was isolated from other work groups. SOURCE personally had no evidence for this statement.

Forced labor camp VORKUTA, Soviet designation, "KIRPITSH # 1" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling). Camp located approximately thirty (30) km NE of VORKUTA, near camp KIRPITSH # 2, listed above. SOURCE did not see camp, gained only knowledge of its existence through its inmates with whom SOURCE got in contact through work. Camp housed 1,000 female prisoners, majority Russians, but also other nationals, especially of Baltic states. Females were employed in two (2), twelve-hour shifts in brick yard. Camp remained active at time of SOURCE's departure from VORKUTA.

According to what SOURCE heard from reliable Russian civilian prisoners, who were held in the VORKUTA area for many years, a total number of sixty (60) forced labor camps were located in this district. The great majority of these camps had an average labor force of 4,000 prisoners.

24. SOURCE, while held in Soviet forced labor camp KIRPITSH # 2 at VORKUTA, for several weeks in Oct and Nov 49, heard from normally reliable criminal prisoners, so-called "BLATNOIS" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling) a category of prisoners normally held for murder or assault on guard troops, who normally did not perform work and therefore were well informed about what was going on in the camp, that in Oct 49, a hand-cuffed American national was delivered to the camp and held in solitary confinement for two (2) days. After two days, the unknown American prisoner reportedly was hand-cuffed and transported by truck to the town of VORKUTA. SOURCE's statement is based on individual reports of so-called "BLATNOIS" and he personally did not see this American national. According to the normally reliable news gained by the BLATNOIS, the prisoner was transported during the night to the main MGB administration VORKUTA. The American reportedly was a member of the American Airforce and reportedly a member of the crew of an aircraft. According to certain reports from Russian civilian prisoners, other English speaking prisoners were said to be held in another compound of the camp KIRPITSH # 2, and reportely were employed in stone quarries.

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25. Originally, MGB forces were in charge of both administration and guarding forced labor camps; after 1949, MGB was responsible for administration and operation, while MVD took over as guard force for forced labor camps. After 1949, most of the "BLATNOIS" were extracted from forced labor camps and were transported to separate camps. 27. SOURCE heard about VOA first in 1948/1949, through Russian civilian prison-ers and also through careless conversations among guards. The VOA was generally referred to by Russians as "GOLOS" (SOURCE's phonetic spelling). SOURCE once listened to a conversation among guards, in the course of which one guard wanted to inform another guard that a new prisoner convoy was expected in the camp at a certain date. The other guard obviously knew about the announced convoy and laughingly answered that this was already broadcast by the Voice of America, also referred to VOA as "GOLOS". Another time, in 1953, while SOURCE was held at ASBEST, a Russian truck driver proudly told SOURCE that he had plenty of opportunity to listen to VOA (GOLOS). VOA, he said, could be heard well in the ASBEST area. SOURCE personally had no opportunity to listen to VOA, but he described his informant as a reliable person; in addition, SOURCE found that this man was surprisingly well informed about the June 17 revolt in East Germany. The name of SOURCE's informant was BARBAROV, approximately forty-eight (48) years old, a former Lt Col of the Red Army, who for an unknown reason was expelled from armed forces and had served a term as prisoner. He was a rather intelligent person, who obviously had a good and thorough education, far above the average. 30. SOURCE talked to Mr. BARBAROV when being alone with him in the cab of the truck which he drove. SOURCE occasionally performed repair work on his vehicle. Mr. BARBAROV admitted the promptness and above all the speed with which certain important events were broadcast by VOA. 33. The lowest price for a medium quality radio set was approximately 2,500 rubles, a price which was unaffordable for normal working-class people. Privately owned sets were restricted to higher income groups. However, SOURCE pointed out that most of the truck drivers did not entirely depend on their legal income, but had opportunity to make extra money by many illegal deals. Thus the possibility that radio sets were privately owned by such people was practically given.			
APPROVED: D.M. ALLISON Colonel, United States Air Force Commander HARBERT H. ACKER Lt Col, USAF Commander 7050 AINW			

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